

# Coexistence of Superconductivity and Ferromagnetism in Intermetallic Uranium-Based Superconductors UCoGe, UIr and UGe<sub>2</sub>

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**Abstract:** - Starting with a model Hamiltonian for the system with equal spin singlet and triplet pairings based on quantum field theory and green function formalism, we obtain expressions for superconductivity and ferromagnetism parameters. The model exhibits a distinct possibility of the coexistence of superconductivity and ferromagnetism, which are two usually irreconcilable cooperative phenomena, however, recently ferromagnetism and superconductivity have been shown to coexist simultaneously in the newly discovered compounds such as UCoGe, UIr and UGe<sub>2</sub>. The work is motivated by the recent experimental evidences below the superconducting phase temperature in a number of uranium-based superconductors. The theoretical results are then applied to show the coexistence of superconductivity and ferromagnetism in the intermetallic uranium-based compound UCoGe, UIr and UGe<sub>2</sub>. The limitations of the model are also discussed.

**Keywords:** · BCS Hamiltonian, green function formalism, Order parameters, Spin singlet and triplet state, Superconducting and ferromagnetic

## I. INTRODUCTION

Since the discovery of superconductivity in itinerant ferromagnet UGe<sub>2</sub> under pressure in a limited range ( $1 \leq P \leq 1.5$  GPa) below 1 K, a lot of interest has been generated in the study of coexistence of these two cooperative phenomena of superconductivity and ferromagnetism [1] which have been considered until very recently hostile and incompatible.

In fact, ErRh<sub>4</sub>B<sub>4</sub> was the first ferromagnetic superconductor in which superconductivity was found to exist in a small temperature interval with modulated ferromagnetic phase as had been observed in a detailed study by Sinha *et al.* [2]. The first observation of a zero resistance in the ferromagnetic state of HoMo<sub>6</sub>S<sub>8</sub> was reported by Lynn *et al.*[3] and then by Genicon *et al.*[4]. The theoretical work using a model Hamiltonian which takes into account the spin interactions between conduction electrons and ferromagnetically ordered localized electrons, can explain the co-existence of singlet superconductivity and ferromagnetism in HoMo<sub>6</sub>S<sub>8</sub>[17].

The intermetallic compound UCoGe belongs to the fascinating family of superconducting ferromagnets [5,6]. In superconducting ferromagnets, a superconducting transition takes place at a temperature  $T_{sc}$  deep in the ferromagnetic state, *i.e.* well below the Curie temperature  $T_C$ , without expelling magnetic order. The superconducting ferromagnets discovered hitherto are UGe<sub>2</sub> (under pressure) [7], URhGe [8], UIr (under pressure) [9], and UCoGe. In these uranium intermetallics magnetism has a strong itinerant character and both ordering phenomena are carried by the same  $5f$  electrons.

The coexistence of superconductivity and ferromagnetism is at odds with the standard BCS theory for phonon-mediated  $s$ -wave superconductivity, because the ferromagnetic exchange field is expected to inhibit spin-singlet Cooper pairing [10]. Very recently, the discovery of superconductivity in a single crystal of Y<sub>9</sub>Co<sub>7</sub> [11], UGe<sub>2</sub> [12], ZrZn<sub>2</sub> [13], URhGe [8], UIr [9], and UCoGe [14] revived the interest in the coexistence of superconductivity and ferromagnetism in the same homogenous system.

The coexistence of superconductivity and weak itinerant ferromagnetism in UCoGe was reported in 2007 [5]. Till then UCoGe was thought to be a paramagnet down to a temperature of 1.2 K [15]. However, in a search for a ferromagnetic quantum critical point induced in the superconducting ferromagnet URhGe ( $T_s = 0.25$  K,  $T_C = 9.5$  K) by alloying with Co [16], it was discovered that UCoGe is actually a weak itinerant ferromagnet below  $T_C = 3$  K and, moreover, a superconductor below  $T_s = 0.8$  K.

Neutron scattering experiments confirm that magnetism in UGe<sub>2</sub> and URhGe is carried by uranium *f* electrons. Superconductivity and ferromagnetism coexist in URhGe and UCoGe at ambient pressure. Thermal expansion and specific heat measurement provides solid evidence for bulk ferromagnetism and superconductivity. Proximity to ferromagnetic instability, defect sensitivity of superconducting transition temperature, and absence of Pauli limiting suggest triplet superconductivity mediated by critical ferromagnetic fluctuations although the mechanism of superconductivity coexisting with ferromagnetism is still under debate [18-21].

The standard way to examine a coexistence phase of ferromagnetism and superconductivity is to introduce two kinds of fermions. Ferromagnetism could be caused by local *f*-electrons whereas superconductivity by itinerant ones. But in these materials such as UCoGe and UIr, both the roles are played by the same uranium 5*f* electrons which are itinerant and strongly correlated. Thus, it would be proper to study microscopically a model where the coexistence of both ferromagnetism and superconductivity can be described by only one kind of electrons. Such a model study has recently been initiated by Karchev et al. [22]. However, this model is confined to singlet superconductivity which is unlikely to occur inside a ferromagnet [23].

In this paper, we start with a model Hamiltonian which incorporates not only terms of the BCS but also an additional new term representing interaction between conduction and localized electrons, for the uranium-based superconductors UCoGe, UIr and UGe<sub>2</sub>, to examine the coexistence of superconductivity and ferromagnetism

## II. MODEL HAMILTONIAN OF THE SYSTEM

The purpose of this work is to study theoretically the co-existence of ferromagnetism and superconductivity properties in the compounds UCoGe, UIr and UGe<sub>2</sub> in general and to find expression for transition temperature and order parameter in particular. The system under consideration consists of conduction and localized electrons, between which exchange interaction exists. Within the framework of the BCS model, the Hamiltonian of the system can be written as [17]:

$$H = H_1 + H_2 + H_3 \quad (1)$$

where,

$$H_1 = \sum_{\kappa,\sigma} \epsilon_{\kappa} \hat{a}_{\kappa,\sigma}^{\dagger} \hat{a}_{\kappa,\sigma} + \sum_{l,\sigma} \epsilon_l \hat{b}_{l,\sigma}^{\dagger} \hat{b}_{l,\sigma} \quad (2)$$

represents, the single particle energies of the conduction and the localized electrons, measured relative to the chemical potential.  $\hat{a}_{\kappa,\sigma}^{\dagger}$  ( $\hat{a}_{\kappa,\sigma}$ ) and  $\hat{b}_{l,\sigma}^{\dagger}$  ( $\hat{b}_{l,\sigma}$ ) are the creation (annihilation) operators for conduction and localized electrons respectively.

$$H_2 = - \sum_{\kappa,\kappa'} V_{\kappa\kappa'} \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^{\dagger} \hat{a}_{-\kappa\downarrow}^{\dagger} \hat{a}_{-\kappa'\downarrow} \hat{a}_{\kappa'\uparrow} \quad (3)$$

is the BCS type electron-electron pairing interaction term due to exchange of phonons. And,

$$H_3 = \sum_{l,m,\kappa} u^{\kappa}_{l,m} \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^{\dagger} \hat{a}_{-\kappa\downarrow}^{\dagger} \hat{b}_{l\uparrow} \hat{b}_{m\uparrow} + h.c \quad (4)$$

(h.c= hermitian conjugate)

is the new term describing the interaction between conduction and localized electrons with the coupling constant *u*. the Hamiltonian in (1) will be used to determine the equations of motion in terms of the Green function.

## III. PAIRING OF SUPERCONDUCTING AND FERROMAGNETIC ORDER PARAMETERS

The Green's function is useful because they can be used to describe the effect of retarded interactions and all quantities of physical interest can be derived from them [27]. To get the equation of motion we use the double-time temperature dependent retarded Green function is given by (Zubarev) [24]:

$$\begin{aligned} G_r(t-t') &\equiv \ll \hat{A}(t); \hat{B}(t') \gg \\ \text{or } G_r(t,t') &= -i\theta(t-t') \langle [\hat{A}(t), \hat{B}(t')] \rangle \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Where  $\hat{A}$  and  $\hat{B}$  are Heisenberg operators and  $\theta(t-t')$  is the Heaviside step function. Now, using Dirac delta function and Heisenberg operators, we can write as;

$$i \frac{d}{dt} G_r(t-t') = \delta(t-t') \langle [\hat{A}(t), \hat{B}(t')] \rangle + \ll [\hat{A}(t), H], \hat{B}(t') \gg$$

The Fourier transformation  $G_r(\omega)$  is given by

$$G_r(t-t') = \int G_r(\omega) \exp[-i\omega(t-t')] d\omega \quad (6)$$

Taking the Fourier transform of (8), we get:

$$\omega G_r(\omega) = \langle [\hat{A}(t), \hat{B}(t')] \rangle_\omega + \langle\langle [\hat{A}(t), H], \hat{B}(t') \rangle\rangle_\omega \quad (7)$$

From (10), it follows that

$$\omega \ll \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg = 1 + \langle\langle [\hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, H], \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \rangle\rangle \quad (8)$$

where the anti-commutation relation,

$$\{\hat{a}_{\kappa\sigma}, \hat{a}_{\kappa'\sigma'}^\dagger\} = \delta_{\kappa\kappa'} \delta_{\sigma\sigma'} \quad (9)$$

has been used. To derive an expression for  $\langle\langle \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \rangle\rangle$ , we have calculate the commutator  $[\hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, H]$ , using (2), (3), and (4). Using the identities and

$$[A, BC] = \{A, B\}C - B\{A, C\} \text{ and } [AB, C] = A\{B, C\} - \{A, C\}B \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} [\hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{H}] &= [\hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{H}_1 + \hat{H}_2 + \hat{H}_3] \\ &= [\hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{H}_1] + [\hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{H}_2] + [\hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{H}_3] \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

The commutation with the interaction Hamiltonian of localized electron from the above equation of the second part as follows;

$$[\hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, H_1] = \epsilon_\kappa \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow} \quad (13a)$$

After some lengthy but straightforward calculations; we arrive at the following results;

$$[\hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, H_2] = - \sum_p V_{kp} \hat{a}_{-\kappa\downarrow}^\dagger \hat{a}_{-p\downarrow} \hat{a}_{p\uparrow} \quad (13b)$$

$$[\hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, H_3] = \sum_{l,m} u_{l,m}^k \hat{a}_{-\kappa\downarrow}^\dagger \hat{b}_{l\uparrow} \hat{b}_{m\uparrow} \quad (13c)$$

Plugging (13) in to (8), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \omega \ll \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg &= 1 + \epsilon_\kappa \ll \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg - \sum_p V_{pk} \ll \hat{a}_{-\kappa\downarrow}^\dagger \hat{a}_{-p\downarrow} \hat{a}_{p\uparrow}, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg \\ &+ \sum_k u_{l,m}^k \ll \hat{a}_{-\kappa\downarrow}^\dagger \hat{b}_{l\uparrow} \hat{b}_{m\uparrow}, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Using Wick's theorem for factorization ( Schwabl) [25], we can reduce (17) into the following form,

$$(\omega - \epsilon_\kappa) \ll \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg = 1 - (\Delta - \gamma) \ll \hat{a}_{-\kappa\downarrow}^\dagger, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg \quad (15)$$

Where

$$\Delta = V \sum_p \ll \hat{a}_{-p\downarrow}, \hat{a}_{p\uparrow} \gg = V \sum_p \ll \hat{a}_{-p\downarrow}^\dagger, \hat{a}_{p\uparrow}^\dagger \gg \quad (16)$$

$$\gamma = u \sum_K \ll \hat{b}_{l\uparrow}, \hat{b}_{m\uparrow} \gg = u \sum_K \ll \hat{b}_{l\uparrow}^\dagger, b_{m\uparrow}^\dagger \gg \quad (17)$$

are related to the superconducting and ferromagnetic order parameters respectively, and are assumed to be real.

To determine  $\ll \hat{a}_{-\kappa\downarrow}^\dagger, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg$  in (15), we use (7), to obtain

$$\omega \ll \hat{a}_{-\kappa\downarrow}^\dagger, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg = \langle\langle [\hat{a}_{-\kappa\downarrow}^\dagger, H], \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \rangle\rangle \quad (18)$$

where (9) has been used,

Proceeding in the same manner, we can reduce (18) into the form:

$$(\omega + \epsilon_\kappa) \ll \hat{a}_{-\kappa\downarrow}^\dagger, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg = -(\Delta - \gamma) \ll \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg \quad (19)$$

Eliminating  $\ll \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg$  from (18) and (22), we obtain,

$$\ll \hat{a}_{-\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger, \hat{a}_{\kappa\uparrow}^\dagger \gg = \frac{-(\Delta - \gamma)}{(\omega^2 - \epsilon_\kappa^2 - (\Delta - \gamma)^2)} \quad (20)$$

To take into account the temperature dependence of order parameters, we shall rewrite (16) and (17) as:

$$\Delta = \frac{V}{\beta} \sum_p \ll \hat{a}_{-p\downarrow}^\dagger, \hat{a}_{p\uparrow}^\dagger \gg \quad (21)$$

$$\gamma = \frac{u}{\beta} \sum_k \ll \hat{b}_{l\uparrow}^\dagger, b_{m\uparrow}^\dagger \gg \quad (22)$$

Where  $\beta = \frac{1}{KT}$

Doing a lot as [17], we arrived at the following results:

$$\frac{\Delta}{\alpha} = \int_0^{\hbar\omega_b} \frac{(\Delta - \gamma)}{\sqrt{(\epsilon^2 + (\Delta - \gamma)^2)}} \tanh(\beta \sqrt{\epsilon^2 + (\Delta - \gamma)^2}/2) d\epsilon \quad (23)$$

$\alpha = N(0)V$ , Where  $N(0)$ , is the density of states at the Fermi level.

From (23), it clearly follows that the order parameters  $\Delta$  and  $\gamma$ , for superconductivity and magnetism are interdependent.

And

$$\langle\langle \hat{b}_{m\uparrow}^\dagger, \hat{b}_{l\uparrow}^\dagger \rangle\rangle = \frac{\Delta_{lm}}{(\omega^2 - \epsilon_l^2 - \Delta_{lm}^2)} \quad (24)$$

Where

$$\Delta_{lm} = \sum_k u_k^{lm} \langle\langle \hat{a}_{k\uparrow}^\dagger, \hat{a}_{-k\downarrow}^\dagger \rangle\rangle$$

$$\frac{\gamma}{\alpha} = \Delta_{lm} \int_0^{\hbar\omega_b} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\epsilon^2 + \Delta_{lm}^2)}} \tanh\left(\beta \sqrt{\epsilon^2 + \Delta_{lm}^2}/2\right) d\epsilon \quad (25)$$

From (25), it is again evident that the order parameters  $\Delta$  and  $\gamma$  are interdependent, as was the case from (23).

It is, therefore, possible that in some temperature interval, ferromagnetism and superconductivity can co-exist, although one phase has a tendency to suppress the critical temperature and the order parameter of the other phase.

#### IV. DEPENDENCE OF THE MAGNETIC ORDER PARAMETER ON THE TRANSITION TEMPERATURE FOR SUPERCONDUCTIVITY AND FERROMAGNETISM

To study how  $\gamma$  depends on the superconducting transition temperature  $T_C$ , we consider the case, when  $T \rightarrow 0K, \beta \rightarrow \infty$

We can then replace

$$\tanh(\beta \sqrt{\epsilon^2 + (\Delta - \gamma)^2}/2) \rightarrow 1$$

in (23) and get,

$$\frac{\Delta}{\alpha} = \int_0^{\hbar\omega_b} \frac{(\Delta - \gamma)}{\sqrt{(\epsilon^2 + (\Delta - \gamma)^2)}} d\epsilon$$

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} = \left(1 - \frac{\gamma}{\Delta}\right) \sinh^{-1}\left(\frac{\hbar\omega_b}{\Delta - \gamma}\right) \quad (26)$$

since  $\left(\frac{\hbar\omega_b}{\Delta - \gamma}\right)^2 \gg 1$  the above equation become to:

$$\Delta - \gamma = 2\hbar\omega_b \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\alpha\left(1 - \frac{\gamma}{\Delta}\right)}\right) \quad (27)$$

from the BCS theory, the order parameter  $\Delta$ , at  $T=0$  for a given superconductor with transition temperature  $T_C$  is given by

$$2\Delta(0) = 3.53k_B T_C \quad (28)$$

using this result in (27), we obtain

$$\gamma = 1.75k_B T_C - 2\hbar\omega_b \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\alpha\left(1 - \frac{\gamma}{1.75k_B T_C}\right)}\right) \quad (29)$$

Once we know  $\alpha$ , we can solve (29) numerically to draw the phase diagram for  $\gamma$  and  $T_C$ .

To estimate  $\alpha$ , we consider the case,

$$T \rightarrow T_c$$

which implies,  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$

From (23), we then have

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} = \int_0^{\hbar\omega_b} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\epsilon^2 + \gamma^2)}} \tanh(\beta \sqrt{\epsilon^2 + \gamma^2}/2) d\epsilon - \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \int_0^{\hbar\omega_b} \frac{\gamma}{\Delta \sqrt{(\epsilon^2 + (\Delta - \gamma)^2)}} \tanh(\beta \sqrt{\epsilon^2 + (\Delta - \gamma)^2}/2) d\epsilon$$

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} = I_1 - I_2 \quad (30)$$

Putting  $E^2 = \epsilon^2 + \gamma^2$   
we can write

$$I_1 = \int_0^{\hbar\omega_b} \frac{1}{E} \tanh(\beta E/2) d\epsilon \quad (31)$$

Using the result

$$I_1 = \int_0^x \frac{\tanh x}{x} dx = (\ln x)(\tanh x) \Big|_0^x - \int_0^x \frac{\ln x}{\cosh^2 x} dx$$

and the fact that, for low temperature,  $\tanh(\frac{\hbar\omega_b}{2k_B T}) \rightarrow 1$ ,  
we have from (31),

$$I_1 = \ln\left(\frac{\hbar\omega_b}{2k_B T_c}\right) - \ln\left(\frac{\pi}{4\delta}\right) \quad (32)$$

Where  $\gamma$  is the Euler constant having the value  $\gamma = 1.78$  (Hsian) [28]  
we can write (32) as,

$$I_1 = \ln\left(1.14 \frac{\hbar\omega_b}{k_B T_c}\right) \quad (33)$$

Using L' Hospital's rule, it is easy to show that

$$I_2 = - \int_0^{\hbar\omega_b} (\gamma^2 \beta) \frac{\operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{\beta \sqrt{\epsilon^2 + \gamma^2}}{2}\right)}{2(\epsilon^2 + \gamma^2)} d\epsilon$$

which can be neglected since  $\gamma^2$  is very small.  
Substituting (33) in (30), we then obtain

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} = \ln\left(1.14 \frac{\hbar\omega_b}{k_B T_c}\right)$$

This implies,

$$T_c = \frac{1.14 \hbar\omega_b}{k_B} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\alpha}\right), \quad (34)$$

which can be used to estimate  $\exp\left(-\frac{1}{\alpha}\right)$  for UCoGe, UIr & UGe<sub>2</sub>, using the experimental value  $T_c \approx 0.7k$ ,  $T_c \approx 0.18k$  and  $T_c \approx 0.8k$  for these compounds.

To study how  $\gamma$  depends on the magnetic transition temperature  $T_m$ , we consider (25). Neglecting  $\Delta^2$ , and proceeding as before, it is easy to show that,

$$\gamma \approx -(\alpha\Delta) \ln\left(1.14 \frac{\hbar\omega_b}{k_B T_m}\right) \quad (35)$$

This gives;

$$\therefore T_m = \left(\frac{1.14 \hbar\omega_b}{k_B}\right) \exp\left(\frac{\gamma}{\alpha\Delta}\right) \quad (36)$$

From (28), we can estimate as  $\Delta(0) \approx 1.706 \times 10^{-23} \text{J}$ ,  $\Delta(0) \approx 0.439 \times 10^{-23} \text{J}$  and  $\Delta(0) \approx 1.949 \times 10^{-23} \text{J}$  for UCoGe, UIr & UGe<sub>2</sub> respectively, using the known value of  $T_c$ . So,  
we can use (36) to draw the phase diagram for  $\gamma$  and  $T_m$

## V. COUPLING OF TRIPLET SUPERCONDUCTIVITY AND FERROMAGNETISM

Superconductivity in these systems is supposed to be triplet regardless of the mechanism of pairing which could be due to some unspecified mechanism possibly due to spin fluctuations near the quantum critical point as in He3. These allow fermions to condense into cooper pairs with  $\ell = 1, 3, \dots$  states rather than into  $\ell = 0, 2, \dots, s$  and states of BCS theory [28]. Following [29], the gap function or parameter can be articulated as:

$$\Delta_{k\sigma\sigma'} = - \sum_{k'} V_{\sigma\sigma'\alpha\beta}(k, k') \ll a_{k'\alpha} a_{-k'\beta} \gg \quad (37)$$

The correlation  $\ll a_{k'\alpha} a_{-k'\beta} \gg$  can be intended as [30]:

$$F(k, \beta) = \frac{1}{2E_{k\uparrow}} \left[ \frac{d(k) + q(k)xd(k)}{|q(k)|} \right] \tanh\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) E_{k\uparrow} + \frac{1}{2E_{k\downarrow}} \left[ \frac{d(k) - q(k)xd(k)}{|q(k)|} \right] \tanh\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) E_{k\downarrow} \quad (51)$$

Where  $E_{k\uparrow,\downarrow} = [E_k^2 + |d(k)|^2 \pm q(k)]^{1/2}$

For the triplet state, we have to write as:

$$\Delta(k)\Delta^*(k) = |d(k)|^2 \hat{I} + i\sigma q(k)$$

At this point, the triplet states are  $|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$ ,  $|\uparrow\downarrow + \downarrow\uparrow\rangle$  and  $|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$ .

For unitary pairing states,  $q(k)=0$  for all  $k$ ,  $F(k,\beta)$  becomes

$$F(k, \beta) = \frac{\Delta(k)}{E_k} \tanh\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) E_k \quad (38)$$

which leads to s-wave superconductivity expression for  $T_C$  known by

$$T_c = \frac{1.14\hbar\omega_b}{k_B} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\alpha}\right) \quad (39)$$

This will be true for opposite spin states as singlet states are also opposite spin states. For triplet states, the gap function can be written as [30]:

$$\Delta_{k\sigma\sigma'} = \sum_k V(k, k') \left\{ \frac{1}{2E_{k\uparrow}} \left[ d(k) + \frac{q(k)xd(k)}{|q(k)|^2} \right] \tanh\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) E_{k\uparrow} + \frac{1}{2E_{k\downarrow}} \left[ d(k) - \frac{q(k)xd(k)}{|q(k)|^2} \right] \tanh\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right) E_{k\downarrow} \right\} \quad (54)$$

This expression can be recast into four equal spin states with  $q(k)=0$  for all  $k$

$$1 = \sum N(\epsilon) V \frac{\left[ \tanh\left(\frac{\beta\epsilon}{2}\right) (E_k - \sigma\mu_B H) \right]}{E_k - \sigma\mu_B H}$$

With  $E_{K\uparrow} = E_{K\downarrow} = E_K$ . Here, we have introduced energy dependent density of states with  $\sigma = \pm$  for  $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$  spins. By changing summation into integral, we can get:

$$k_B T_C = 1.14\hbar\omega_b \exp \left\{ \left( -V \left[ N(\epsilon_f) |_{\epsilon_f} \pm \frac{\partial N(\epsilon)}{\partial \epsilon} |_{\epsilon_f} \sigma \mu_B H \right] \right)^{-1} \right\} \quad (40)$$

we can rewrite this as:

$$k_B T_C = 1.14\hbar\omega_b \exp \left( -\frac{1}{\alpha \pm \alpha'} \right) \quad (41)$$

Where  $\alpha = VN(\epsilon_f) |_{\epsilon_f}$  and  $\alpha' = \sigma V a \mu_B H$ ,  $a = \frac{\partial N(\epsilon)}{\partial \epsilon} |_{\epsilon_f}$ .

Here,  $H$  can be an applied field or exchange magnetic field.

From this, we can write

$$k_B T_{C\uparrow} = 1.14\hbar\omega_b \exp \left( -\frac{1}{\alpha + \alpha'} \right) \quad (42a)$$

$$k_B T_{C\downarrow} = 1.14\hbar\omega_b \exp \left( -\frac{1}{\alpha - \alpha'} \right) \quad (42b)$$

From the above two expression we can generalized  $T_{C\uparrow}$  for up spin fermions will be larger than  $T_{C\downarrow}$  for down ones. Therefore, in between  $T_{C\uparrow}$  and  $T_{C\downarrow}$ , there is no pairing. It appears that because of the exchange coupled uranium  $f$  electron spins  $|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$  and  $|\uparrow\downarrow + \downarrow\uparrow\rangle$  of the triplet set may be make disappeared or suppressed giving principally  $|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$ . This may be the limitation of the model.

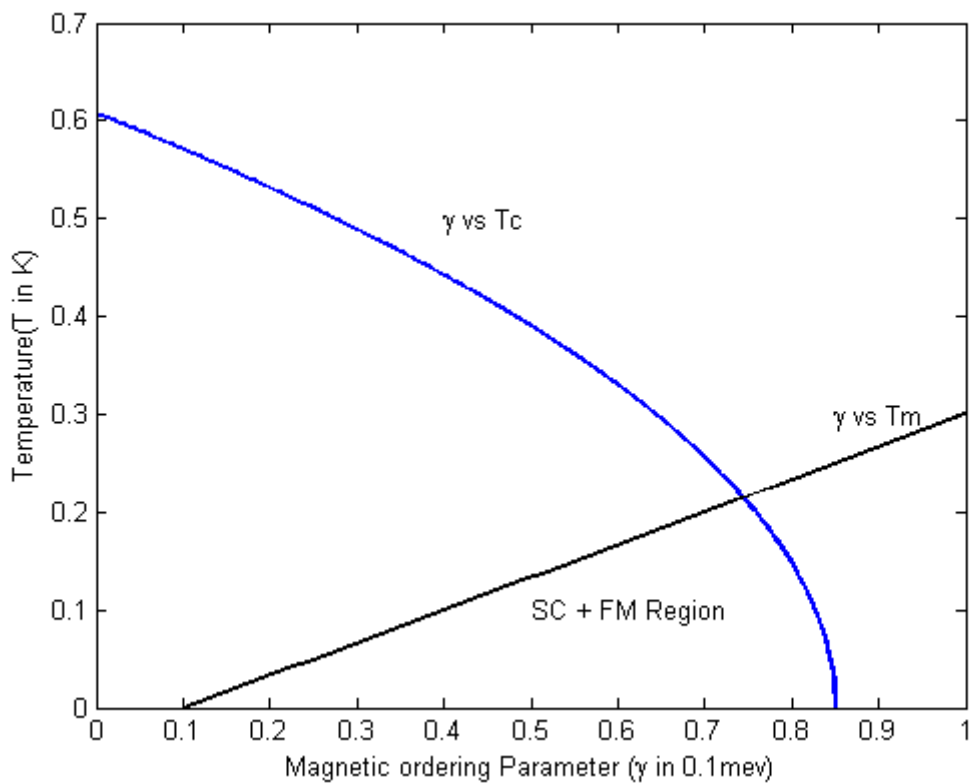


Fig. 1: Co-existence of superconductivity and ferromagnetism in UCoGe.

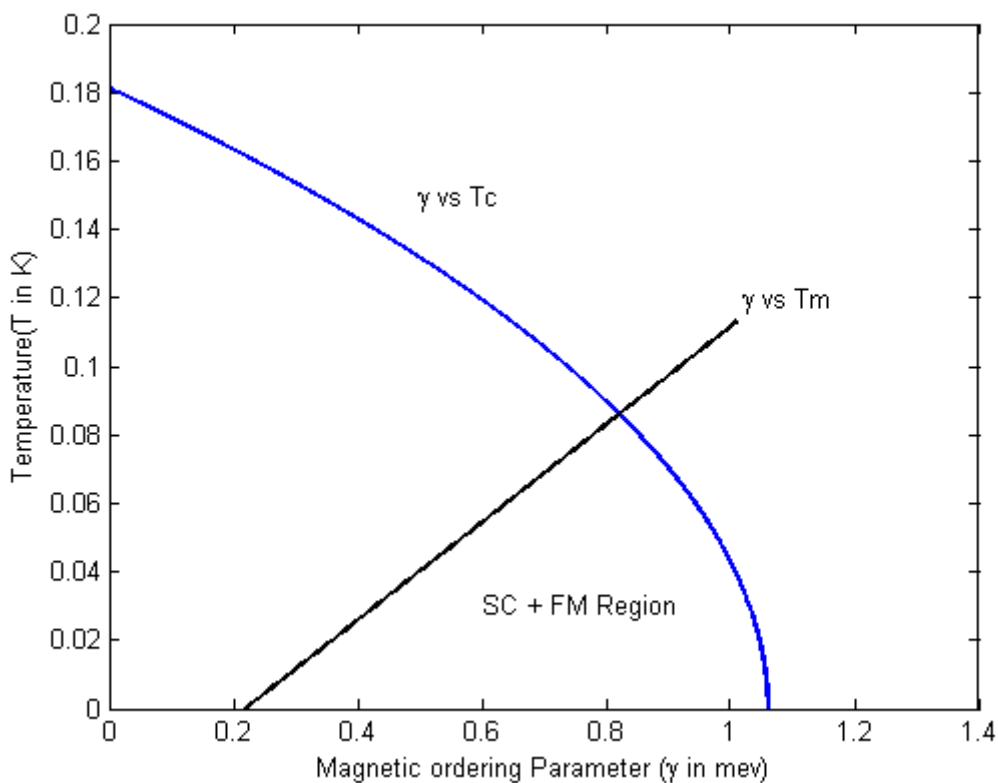
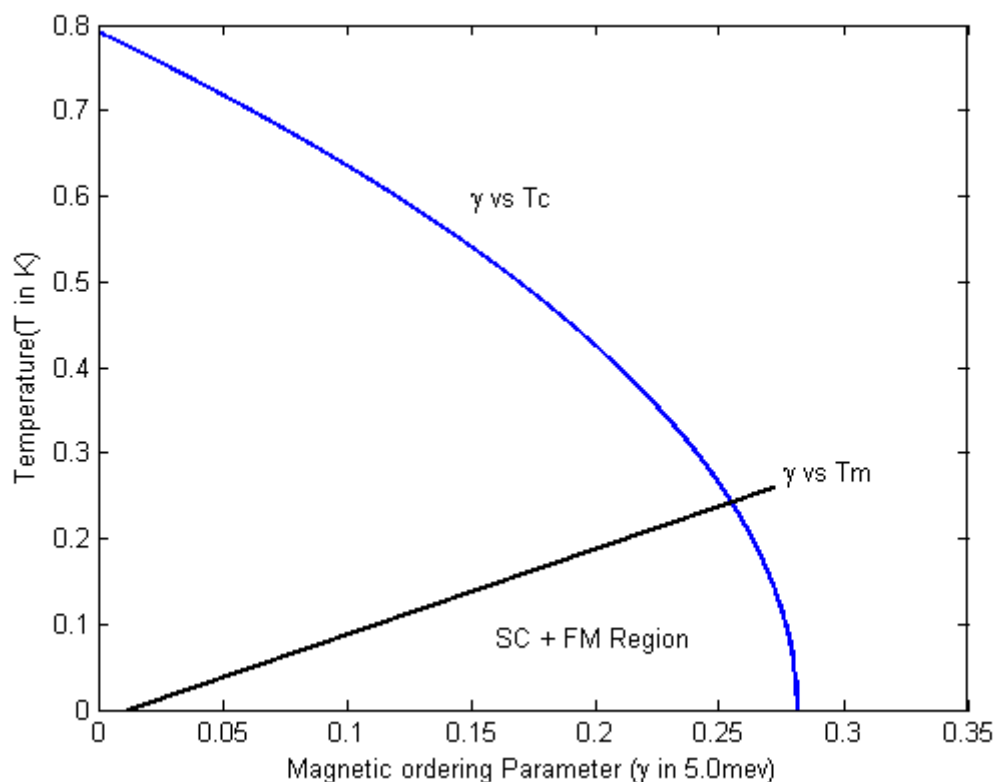


Fig. 2: Co-existence of superconductivity and ferromagnetism in UIr.



**Fig. 3: Co-existence of superconductivity and ferromagnetism in  $UGe_2$ .**

## VI. RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

In uranium intermetallic compounds magnetism has a strong itinerant character and both ordering phenomena are carried by 5f electrons. In Fig. 1, 2 and 3 we have presented the theoretical curve of the magnetic order parameter  $\gamma$  as a function of the superconducting temperature  $T_C$ . For this purpose, we have used (29) which has been numerically solved using the relevant parameters for UCoGe, UIr and  $UGe_2$ . In the same figure, we have also plotted the curve of  $\gamma$  as a function of the magnetic transition temperature  $T_m$ , using (36). This curve is found to be almost linear up to the experimental value of  $T_m=3k$ ,  $T_m=46k$  and  $T_m=52k$  for Uranium-Based Superconductors of UCoGe, UIr and  $UGe_2$  that we study.

From Fig. 1, 2 and 3 we observe that  $T_C$  decreases with increase in  $\gamma$ , whereas  $T_m$  increases with increase in  $\gamma$ . The superconducting and ferromagnetic phases, therefore, resist each other. However, the present work shows that there is a small region of temperature, where both the phases may be in existence together and indicated by (SC+FM) in the Figures. Thus a simple model based on a Hamiltonian which takes into account the spin interactions between conduction electrons and ferromagnetically ordered localized electrons, can explain the co-existence of singlet superconductivity and ferromagnetism in UCoGe, UIr and  $UGe_2$ . In the triplet case, it appears the state  $|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$  will have preponderance and other states like  $|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$  and  $|\uparrow\downarrow + \downarrow\uparrow\rangle$  will be suppressed with small magnetic field applied or resulting from exchange interaction.  $T_{c\uparrow}$  is found to be larger than  $T_{c\downarrow}$ . Thus, only spin up electrons will pair and compress first. Our study unequivocally shows that superconductivity and itinerant ferromagnetism truly coexist in these systems and both ordering phenomena are carried by the same 5f electrons.

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